CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Annual report: Contra Costa County agricultural production values in 2015 rose 7% to \$128,507,000

CONCORD, CA —The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in Contra Costa County in 2015 was \$128,507,000, which is an increase of \$8,678,000 or 7.24% from 2014. In general, demand and prices have remained strong for agricultural crops.

Crop values vary from year to year due to factors such as production, weather and market conditions. Some notable changes include a 27% increase in vegetable and seed crop values, and a moderate decrease in fruit and nut crops values due to poor market conditions and reduced yields with several commodities. Tomato market and production conditions continue to favor the trend toward increased acreage. Cherry yield remains below average due to unfavorable weather conditions that greatly reduced fruit set. Grapes are also broken down according to color for the first time in this year's report, and results show that 80% are red, while the remaining are white and rosé varieties.

Several crop categories exceeded one million dollars in value. These categories in decreasing order include cattle and calves, tomatoes, sweet corn, miscellaneous vegetables, grapes, rangeland, field corn, alfalfa, walnuts, miscellaneous field crops, cherries, peaches, pasture, apricots, and wheat.

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